

Benson Banner – February 2019

1 Thessalonians 4:13 ...we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not **grieve** like the rest of mankind, who have no hope.



As we sat by Mom's bedside during the last days of her life, the Lord gave us the gift of time with Mom. Time to be with her, time to remember, time to share stories, time to read scripture, time to sing to her, time to care for her needs, time to be together with family and friends, time for laughter, time for tears, time for prayer, and time to be still,...as mom waited in heaven's waiting room. Mom passed into the arms of Jesus quietly and peacefully on Friday, Feb. 1, 2019. We miss her, but thank God that mom is free from suffering, and enjoying the place Jesus prepared for His people. We're grateful to God for the care, visits, prayer and practical support from friends and family in these last days. We're grateful too that we could celebrate Mom's life with family and friends, honouring the legacy of faith that she left for our family.



Gerry Benson
March 24, 1939-
Feb 1, 2019

At MissionPREP we began the year looking back in thankfulness for God's provision and faithfulness in 2018. As a small team serving missionaries, we regularly stop to recount the ways we have seen God at work in our midst. We share these with you so you can rejoice with us for what God has done.

- God continues to call His labourers into the harvest field. We met 56 adults and 27 children and teens heading out for cross-cultural ministry and an additional 29 adults and 10 children were returning from "the trenches". Thank you, LORD, for calling, equipping and sending!
- A balanced budget in a year of reduced enrollment and therefore reduced income. Thank you, LORD, for extra donations of time, gifts in kind, and people!
- Provision of specific staff for the needs of the learners. Two memorable people God used in 2018 were a young woman who had served on staff the previous summer and who called to volunteer. Another was a young man (missionary kid) who effectively ministered to a group of 5 teenage missionary kids (guys) during a summer program. Thank you LORD, for providing staff to meet the needs of our students!
- Healing, as the Norovirus swept through about 80% of our students/staff during one program. Two students who were doctors, offered practical advice. Thank-you God for answering our desperate prayers for quick healing.
- Grace and wisdom to love and teach a group of nine children, several with special needs and many in stages of grief and transition as they prepared for departure. Thank you, LORD, for meeting these children's needs!

God is at work all around us and we pray for him to open the eyes of our heart, to help us taste and see that he is good (Psalm 34:8), (even in life's challenges), and to know that His love endures forever, and His faithfulness continues through all generations (Psalm 100:5).



Thankful for God's work in the hearts of RE-VIEW participants Feb 3-8

Please pray for the students coming to the IMPACT pre-field training, Feb 25-March 8, to be well prepared for effective cross-cultural ministry.

Thankful for your interest and prayers,
Ken & Carolyn Benson



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